

to introduce?

CLERK: Not at this time, Mr. President, no. But I do have a couple of other items for the record, if I might.

PRESIDENT: All right.

CLERK: Mr. President, I have a confirmation report from Natural Resources. That is offered by Senator Schmit. Senator Schmit, as Chair of Natural Resources, to whom was referred LB 814 instructs me to report it advanced to General File with committee amendments attached, signed by Senator Schmit as Chair. That is all that I have, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. We'll move on to number 6, the confirmation reports.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Lamb, as Chairman of the Transportation Committee, would offer a report on Mr. Gerald Strobel, Director/State Engineer, Nebraska Department of Roads. The report is found on page 391 of the Journal.

PRESIDENT: Senator Lamb, please.

SENATOR LAMB: Thank you, Mr. President and members. Mr. G.C. Strobel was recommended by the Transportation Committee. As you will remember, Mr. Strobel was appointed by Governor Orr to be Director/State Engineer of the Department of Roads. The confirmation hearing was held last Tuesday and the committee did vote to confirm Mr. Strobel. Mr. Strobel has had wide experience in the Department of Roads, a long-time employee, well qualified and we would recommend that his appointment be confirmed by this body.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Wesely, please.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you. Mr. President and members, in our discussion with Mr. Strobel, I asked a number of questions dealing with the dismissal of Ray Hogrefe and I would like to share, on the floor, a little bit of my observations. First off, I felt that that whole situation was not handled very well, and I did respect, greatly, Mr. Hogrefe. It seemed to me the idea of having him dismissed, over the lack of action on his part to fire employees on a partisan basis, was an inappropriate situation and unfortunate, as well. Mr. Strobel's selection, I